

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently amended) A cover of an airbag apparatus comprising:
    - a main cover body having a door portion which opens when an airbag inflates; and
    - a back plate mounted on a back surface of the main cover body; and
    - connectors extending away from the main cover body for connecting the cover to an airbag container; wherein the back plate and the connectors ~~containers~~ are separate elements;
      - wherein each of the connectors includes a front piece placed on the back plate and a leg piece which projects rearward from the front piece behind the main cover body and is configured to be connected to the container;
      - wherein the main cover body includes projecting pieces which project rearward from the back surface of the main cover body;
      - wherein the projecting pieces extend through openings formed in the front pieces of the connectors and openings formed in the back plate.
  2. (Original) The cover of claim 1, wherein the back plate includes a pair of plates separated by a slit.
  3. (Original) The cover of claim 1, wherein the back plate includes a series of slits positioned to form a weakened region that separates when the airbag deploys.
- Claims 4-6: CANCELLED
7. (Currently amended) The cover of ~~claim 6~~ claim 1, wherein each of the front pieces of the connectors includes a pair of upright pieces which project from the edges of the opening formed in the front piece.
  8. (Original) The cover of claim 7, wherein the upright pieces of each of the front pieces are connected to one of the projecting pieces.
  9. (Original) The cover of claim 1, wherein a central portion of the back plate is fixed to a door portion of the main cover body and edge portions of the back plate are formed continuously to the central portion such that the edge portions can be bent.

10. (Original) The cover of claim 9, wherein the edge portions are provided with openings and are positioned on the back surface of the main cover body so that projecting pieces of the main cover body extend through the openings.

11. (Original) The cover of claim 1, wherein the main cover body is a lid or an instrument panel.

12. (Currently amended) An airbag apparatus comprising a container which is open at the front side, an airbag stored in the container, a gas generator for inflating the airbag, and a cover which covers the front side of the container, wherein the cover includes a main cover body having a door portion which opens when an airbag inflates; and a back plate mounted on a back surface of the main cover body; and connectors extending away from the main cover body for connecting the cover to an airbag container; wherein the back plate and the connectors ~~containers~~ are separate elements; wherein each of the connectors includes a front piece placed on the back plate and a leg piece which projects rearward from the front piece behind the main cover body and is configured to be connected to the container; wherein the main cover body includes projecting pieces which project rearward from the back surface of the main cover body; wherein the projecting pieces extend through openings formed in the front pieces of the connectors and openings formed in the back plate.

13. CANCELLED

14. (New) A cover of an airbag apparatus comprising:

a main cover body having a door portion which opens when an airbag inflates;  
a back plate mounted on a back surface of the main cover body; and  
connectors extending away from the main cover body for connecting the cover to an  
airbag container, wherein the back plate and the connectors are separate elements,  
wherein edge portions of the back plate are provided with back plate openings for  
projecting pieces of the main cover body to extend through the openings, wherein the back  
plate openings and projecting pieces are arranged outside of the door portion of the main  
cover body.